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#### **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

(Amendments are illustrated by showing deletions by ~~striketrough~~ and additions by underlining)

Please replace the Abstract of the Disclosure with the following:

--ABSTRACT

This invention relates to a an oil-in-water process for preparing biodegradable microspheres and/or nanospheres ~~using and oil in water process for~~ capable of the controlled release of bioactive peptides which involves preparing a solution of the bioactive peptide complexed with an anionically or cationically functionalized biodegradable polyester in an organic solvent.--